



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol, August 25, 2003

This Week – Ongoing Work – 8/25/03 through 8/29/03

Highlights:

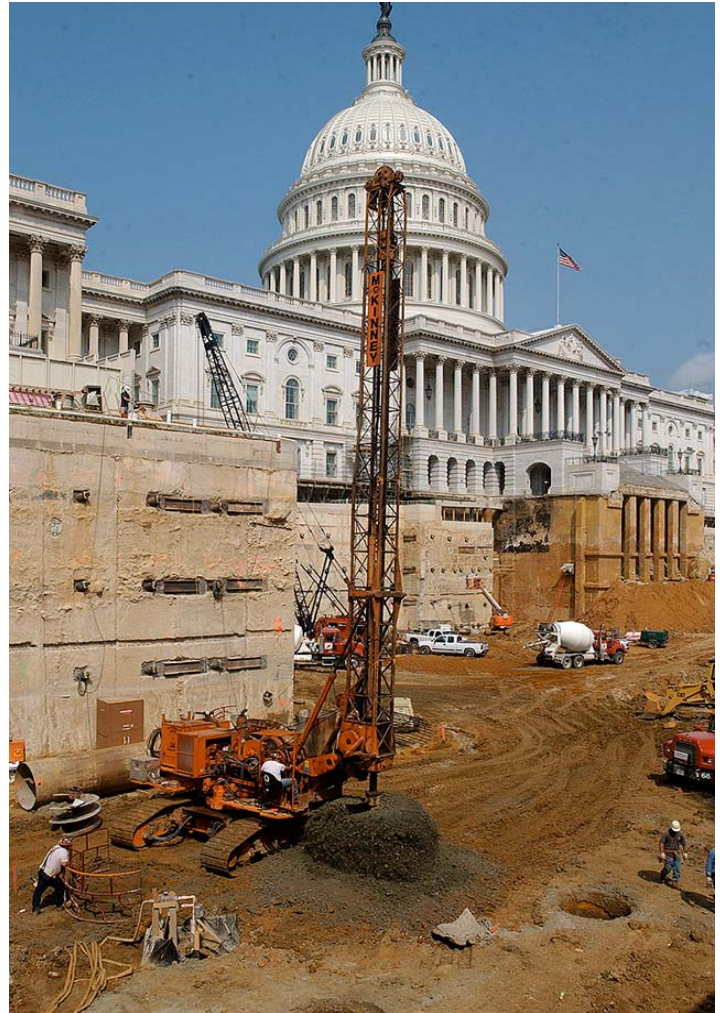
- Excavation has reached its base depth of 50 feet throughout most of the southern half of the site.
- Crews have installed approximately 30 caissons in the southwest quadrant. Eventually, 165 caissons will be poured to support all of the steel and concrete columns that will be erected on the CVC site.
- Excavation continues below the existing Russell Tunnel to clear the way for the CVC truck tunnel.

East Front Plaza Work

- Site excavation continues throughout the project site and is now 75 percent complete.
- Installation of tie-backs continues on the north side of the site. Only 25 tie-backs remain to be installed out of a total of 494.
- The first steel columns are expected to be erected the first week of September. Horizontal roof beams will be connected to the vertical columns as they are erected, so a portion of the roof structure of the CVC will begin to take shape by early October.

East Front Extension (Inside the Capitol)

- Demolition of architectural and structural elements continues on several levels within the East Front Extension. The work will clear the way for the transition zone between the CVC and the Capitol, which will include escalators, stairwells and two 25-passenger elevators.



A 60-inch-diameter auger is used to excavate 15-foot-deep holes that will house concrete caissons. The caissons will serve as footings for 50-foot-high steel columns.



Senate Side (Truck Tunnel Zone)

Truck Tunnel Construction:

- CVC truck tunnel construction work continues on the East Front Plaza adjacent to and within the Senate triangular parking area, along Constitution Avenue NW, and along the east side of New Jersey Avenue NW between Constitution Avenue and C Street NW.

Left: Workers continue to install miles of utility conduit in trenches that have been excavated below the base level of the CVC.

Next Week – Anticipated Work – 9/01/03 through 9/05/03

East Front Plaza Work

- Excavation will continue throughout the CVC construction site. Installation of tie-backs will continue on the north side of the site. Installation of utilities and caissons will continue in the southwest quadrant of the site.

East Front (Inside the Capitol Building)

- Demolition of architectural and structural elements will continue in the basement, sub-basement and upper floors within the East Front Extension.

Senate Side (Outside the CVC Construction Fence)

- CVC truck tunnel work will continue in all areas of the tunnel construction zone.

*If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact **Tom Fontana**, CVC Project Communications Officer for the Architect of the Capitol, at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at: tfontana@ao.gov. You can read this document and previous editions on our web site at www.aoc.gov (click on the "Capitol Visitor Center" link in the project list).*



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3.

Clockwise from top left: (1.) A 60-inch-diameter auger is used to excavate a hole 15 feet deep. (2.) A worker is then lowered to the bottom of the hole where he will test the soil density to determine its bearing capacity. (3.) Then, a cylindrical steel cage is lowered into the hole. The cage will provide structural reinforcement to the concrete that will be poured into the hole. (4.) After concrete is placed, large bolts are inserted in the concrete at the top of the caisson. The bolts will serve as anchor points for a 50-foot-high, 16-inch-square hollow steel column that will be erected on the caisson. The steel column will then be filled with concrete before it is capped.



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